UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

UNDP

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(SOM/78/008)
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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SOMALIA

Project Development and Planning
(SOM/78/008)

Report of the Administrator*

Date of present approval:	June 1979
Starting date of project activities:	January 1979 (Including previous assistance)
Planned completion date:	December 1981
To be executed by:	United Nations
Government implementing agency:	State Planning Commission
Estimated cost of assistance planned under present approval:	$2 470 800
Source of UNDP financing:	Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. The development priorities enunciated in the Three-year Development Plan (1979-1981) reflect the basic development principles of the Government of Somalia, which include social equality, optimum use of national resources in production and the promotion of large-scale development schemes in the public sector. In 1974, in connexion with the severe drought with which Somalia was then afflicted, the Government requested UNDP assistance in the development of rehabilitation projects for the benefit of nomads, who constitute about two-thirds of Somalia's population, stricken by drought. Through the United Nations/UNDP assistance, which was provided under project, Project Preparation and Rehabilitation (SOM/75/009)[1/], a number of surveys and studies were completed before the project ended in 1978.

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* In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) and subsequent authorizations of the UNDP Governing Council, reports are issued seriatim on the approval of UNDP assistance of $250,000 or more (including, if any, assistance financed by Government or by third-party cost sharing).

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2. Although primarily oriented to the development of drought rehabilitation projects, the previous project also assisted in the preparation of the Three-Year Development Plan. Since its activities comprised virtually all sectors of the national economy, the project became attached to the State Planning Commission, which occupies a pivotal role in project development and planning in Somalia. The implementation of the Plan and the need to plan continuously for the future, however, requires upgrading of the capabilities of the State Planning Commission. For this reason, the Government requested further assistance from UNDP which has been approved under the present project. It is designed to accelerate the preparation, appraisal and execution of projects and to establish a coherent national development planning system including monitoring of plan implementation.

II. Objectives and activities

3. The immediate objective of the project is to improve the capacity of the State Planning Commission in planning and project development so that it will be capable of conducting the development planning process efficiently and effectively. Although institution-building is the main objective of the project, direct support will be the project's primary role initially. As the project preparation activity and planning machinery are strengthened, the direct support function of the project will be gradually de-emphasized in favour of increasing institution-building activities. To this end, the national and international staff working together will: (a) organize seminars for senior staff of the State Planning Commission, sectoral ministries and other Government agencies in perspective, medium and short-term planning, project preparation, project appraisal and implementation; (b) prepare guidelines to serve not only as reference for the participants in the seminars but also as a basic means of instruction for the day-to-day work of the State Planning Commission as well as the planning unit in sectoral ministries; and (c) develop and elaborate a programme of in-service training of Somalia professionals in project development and planning etc.

III. Inputs

4. UNDP will provide, through the Executing Agency, for: the services of one senior economic development planner, one agricultural planning adviser, one agronomist, one animal husbandry and range adviser, one irrigation engineer, one project appraisal adviser, one industrial planning engineer, one senior hydrogeologist, one fisheries industry adviser and one dairy development adviser; consultants; fellowships; equipment and supplies.

5. The Government will provide qualified professional and supporting staff, office space, supplies and equipment directly to the project.

IV. Financial data

6. The expenditure components of the planned assistance are as follows:

	$
Personnel	2 138 000
Training	171 300
Equipment	111 500
Miscellaneous	50 000
	2 470 800

7. The estimated total value expressed in US dollars of inputs provided directly by the Government to the project is $1,778,300 in kind.

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